LITTLE CHERRY (virus). Symptoms were sev. on Lambert in the Creston Valley, B.C. rendering much of the crop unmarketable. Bing was only mildly affected (J.M.W.).

Little Cherry and K.+S. Disease

T.B. Lott and F.W.L. Keane

Kwanzan and Shiro-fugen flowering cherries at Summerland, B.C. were indexed for the virus causing K.+ S. disease. This virus causes a disease in sweet cherry very similar to little cherry. The indexing showed that the stocks of Kwanzan in use at Summerland were infected but that the Shiro-fugen stocks were not. The Kwanzan stocks have been eliminated.

Despite the proximity of the Kwanzan stocks to sweet cherry trees of bearing age and to the indexed stocks of Shiro-fugen there was no evidence of natural spread of the K.+S. virus from Kwanzan to sweet cherry or Shiro-fugen. Flowering cherries are present to a limited extent as ornamentals throughout the Okanagan Valley. It appears probable that the K.+S. virus, similar to, and perhaps identical with, the little cherry virus, is now present and has been present for years in at least some of the flowering cherry trees. In the absence of spread to sweet cherries, and in the absence of symptoms in the flowering cherries, the K.+S. virus could remain present and undetected in the flowering cherries indefinitely.

Little cherry is as yet unreported in the Okanagan and Similkameen Valleys.

Yellows and Necrotic Ring Spot of Cherry

T.R. Davidson

In the Niagara Peninsula leaf symptoms of yellows accompanied by leaf drop was widespread in 1958 but not as sev. as in 1957. Etch symptoms of necrotic ring spot were somewhat more prevalent than in 1957 but did not reach the proportions of 1956. Weather conditions in the spring of 1958 seem to have favored the development of yellows rather than ring spot symptoms.

Spread of these diseases appears to depend upon the age of trees, internal inoculum and isolation from diseased orchards. The greatest spread occurs in orchards 5-10 years of age. One non-isolated virus-free orchard remained healthy for 4 years but in the fifth year 4.5% of the trees